

# Indiana House of Representatives

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## News and Information

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### **SMITH ACTIVELY SUPPORTING "MEN TAKE YOUR CHILDREN TO SCHOOL DAY" INITIATIVE**

INDIANAPOLIS - State Rep. Vernon G. Smith (D-Gary) will be participating in "Men Take Your Children to School Day" on Wednesday, August 24.

Smith will be taking two young people from his church, New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, to their respective schools. He will take one of the children to Williams Elementary School and a second child to Dunbar Pulaski Middle School.

The concept for the "Men Take Your Children to School Day" originated with Gary City Council President Chuck Hughes and Gary Community School Board Member Alex Wheeler.

"Although I do not have children of my own, I want to express my deep and enthusiastic support for the message conveyed by this event," Smith said.

"It seems that far too few black males are involved in making a positive contribution to the futures of their children or the other young people around them," he added. "This event will give us the opportunity to demonstrate a willingness and commitment to stay involved in the lives of the young people around us."

"On behalf of those of us who have been trying to encourage greater involvement on the part of black males in our communities, I want to thank to commend the efforts of Chuck Hughes and Alex Wheeler in publicizing this positive event," Smith said.

"I look forward to participating and I hope many other men in our community will take full advantage of this opportunity on many occasions throughout the school year," he added.

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**This news release can be accessed on the Internet at [www.IN.gov/H14](http://www.IN.gov/H14)**